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PAGE 01 STATE 108985

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ARA-01 /004 R

66607

DRAFTED BY: L/UNA:AMSURENA

APPROVED BY: L:SMSCHWEBEL

----- 084771

R 092205Z MAY 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MEXICO

UNCLAS STATE 108985

FOL REPEAT OF CARACAS 4585 TO SECSTATE INFO USUN MAY 1

QTE:

UNCLAS CARACAS 4585

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PORG AORG SPOP

SUBJ: ECLA REGIONAL SEMINAR FOR LATIN AMERICA ON THE INTEGRATION
OF WOMEN ON DEVELOPMENT WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO
POPULATION FACTORS, APRIL 28 - MAY 2

1. TRANSMITTING TEXT OF PRELIMINARY DRAFT DECLARATION SUBMITTED
BY THE DELEGATION OF MEXICO. COMMENT FOLLOWS SEPTTEL.

2. BEGIN TEXT.

THE EXPERTS PARTICIPATING IN THIS SEMINAR:

1. RECOGNIZING THAT DESPITE THE ADVANCES MADE AT THE JURIDICAL
LEVEL IN THE MAJORITY OF THE COUNTRIES, IN PRACTICE THERE ARE
STILL DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE POLITICAL, ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL STATUS
OF WOMEN AS COMPARED WITH THAT OF MEN;

2. REAFFIRMING THAT IN THOSE COUNTRIES WHERE WOMEN ARE STILL
SUFFERING FROM A SITUATION OF INEQUALITY ON THE JURIDICAL LEVEL,
THERE CAN BE NO VALID EXCUSE FOR PUTTING OFF THE SOLUTION OF THIS

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PAGE 02 STATE 108985

SERIOUS PROBLEM, WHICH IS A REAL PREREQUISITE FOR THE FULL
INCORPORATION OF WOMEN IN NATIONAL EFFORTS TO GIVE THE WHOLE

POPULATION A STANDARD OF LIVING FIT FOR HUMAN BEINGS;

3. RECALLING THAT ONE OF THE FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES OF THE UNITED NATIONS CHARTER IS THAT THERE SHOULD BE INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION BOTH IN THE SOLUTION OF ALL TYPES OF INTERNATIONAL PROBLEMS AND IN THE DEVELOPMENT AND STIMULATION OF RESPECT FOR THE FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS OF ALL AND FOR HUMAN RIGHTS WITHOUT DISTINCTION OF SEX, RACE, LANGUAGE OR RELIGION;

4. DEEPLY CONVINCED THAT THE ULTIMATE AIM OF EVERY COMMUNITY IS TO ACHIEVE THE FULL ASSIMILATION OF ALL HUMAN BEINGS INTO THE SOCIAL ORDER ON THE BASIS OF THE FULLEST EQUALITY;

5. SEEKING TO MAKE A REAL CONTRIBUTION TO THE EFFECTIVE ACHIEVEMENT OF THE AIMS OF EQUALITY OF RIGHTS, OPPORTUNITIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES FOR BOTH SEXES, FULL INTEGRATION OF WOMEN INTO ALL ASPECTS OF THE DEVELOPMENT EFFORT, AND THE BROADEST PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN IN INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION AND THE STRENGTHENING OF WORLD PEACE;

6. REASSERTING THE URGENT NEED TO BRING ABOUT THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A JUST AND MORE STABLE NEW INTERNATIONAL ORDER IN WHICH THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES WILL BE FULLY INTEGRATED AND WILL PARTICIPATE EQUITABLY IN THE FRUITS OF PROGRESS, AND IN WHICH WOMEN WILL HAVE THE SAME OPPORTUNITIES AS MEN, NOT THROUGH GIVING THEM A PREFERENTIAL POSITION, BUT THROUGH PERMITTING THEM TO DEVELOP THEIR TALENTS AND APTITUDES FOR THE SAKE OF THEIR OWN PERSONAL FULFILMENT AND FOR THE BENEFIT OF SOCIETY AS A WHOLE;

7. CONSCIOUS THAT THE PROBLEMS OF WOMEN ARE THE PROBLEMS OF SOCIETY AS A WHOLE, AND THAT THEREFORE ANY CHANGE IN THE PRESENT STATUS OF WOMEN CANNOT BE SEPARATED FROM EFFORTS TO TRANSFORM THE STRUCTURES WHICH STAND IN THE WAY OF THE GENUINE SATISFACTION OF THE NEEDS OF WOMEN AND OTHER UNDER-PRIVILEGED GROUPS;

8. BEARING IN MIND THAT THE CRISIS IN THE PREVAILING WORLD INTERNATIONAL ORDER, INSTEAD OF TURNING THE ATTENTION OF THE WORLD INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY AWAY FROM THE PRESSING ISSUES DISCUSSED IN THIS SEMINAR, SHOULD UNDERLINE THEIR TRUE SIGNIFICANCE;
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PAGE 03 STATE 108985

9. SOLEMNLY DECLARE THAT:

(A) THE ISSUE OF EQUALITY, AS IT AFFECTS THE VAST MAJORITY OF THE FEMALE POPULATION OF THE WORLD, IS CLOSELY LINKED WITH THE PROBLEM OF UNDERDEVELOPMENT, WHICH EXISTS AS A RESULT NOT ONLY OF UNSUITABLE INTERNAL STRUCTURES, BUT ALSO OF A PROFOUNDLY UNJUST WORLD ECONOMIC SYSTEM;

(B) THE PRIME RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

OF THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES LIES WITH THE COUNTRIES THEMSELVES: THEY MUST THEREFORE BE PREPARED TO MAKE THE NECESSARY EFFORT TO RESOLVE THEIR PROBLEMS, TO MOBILIZE THEIR BASIC RESOURCES FULLY, TO INTRODUCE THE NECESSARY REFORMS IN THEIR ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL STRUCTURES SO THAT THEY ARE ABLE TO ABSORB THE ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTION OF THEIR AVAILABLE HUMAN RESOURCES, ESPECIALLY THE HITHERTO UNEXPLORED POTENTIAL OF WOMEN, AND TO ENSURE THE PARTICIPATION OF THEIR PEOPLES IN THE DEVELOPMENT PROCESS AND IN THE BENEFITS ACCRUING FROM IT;

(C) URGENT MEASURES MUST THEREFORE BE TAKEN, IN KEEPING WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, SO AS TO CO-OPERATE WITH THEM IN ACCELERATING THEIR RATE OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND SIGNIFICANTLY IMPROVING THE STANDARDS OF LIVING OF THEIR PEOPLES, WITH SPECIAL ATTENTION TO THE SITUATION OF WOMEN, WHICH IS OF PARTICULAR CONCERN IN THOSE PARTS OF THE WORLD WHICH ARE THE HOME FOR THREE-QUARTERS OF MANKIND AND ARE CONFRONTED DAILY WITH AN ENDLESS SERIES OF GRAVE AND PRESSING POLITICAL, SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROBLEMS.

(D) IN THE FACE OF THIS SITUATION, IT IS ESSENTIAL TO ESTABLISH A NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER, OF WHICH THE CHARTER OF ECONOMIC RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF STATES CONSTITUTES A BASIC ELEMENT FOUNDED ON EQUITY, SOVEREIGN EQUALITY, INTERDEPENDENCE, COMMON INTEREST, CO-OPERATION BETWEEN ALL STATES WHATEVER THEIR ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL SYSTEMS, ON SHARED RESPONSIBILITY FOR DEVELOPMENT, AND WHEREVER POSSIBLE ON THE ADVANCE OF THE SOCIETIES MAKING UP THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY AND OF WOMEN WITHIN THOSE SOCIETIES;

(E) THE RAISING OF THE STANDARD OF LIVING OF HUNDREDS OF MILLIONS OF PERSONS INHABITING THE UNDER-DEVELOPED PART OF THE WORLD
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PAGE 04 STATE 108985

TO A LEVEL COMPATIBLE WITH HUMAN DIGNITY, THE ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF COLONIALISM, NEO-COLONIALISM, FOREIGN DOMINATION, FOREIGN OCCUPATION, RACIAL DISCRIMINATION AND APARTHEID, THE ACHIEVEMENT OF GENERAL AND COMPLETE DISARMAMENT, AND THE FULL INTEGRATION OF WOMEN IN THE ECONOMIC LIFE OF THE COUNTRIES, PROVIDING THEM WITH TRAINING WHICH WILL ENABLE THEM BETTER TO DISCHARGE BOTH THEIR MODERN AND TRADITIONAL DUTIES: ALL THESE CONSTITUTE A REAL CHALLENGE TO THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY AS A WHOLE, AND AT THE SAME TIME ARE INDISPENSABLE CONDITIONS FOR THE STABILITY AND WELL-BEING OF ALL MANKIND AND FOR WORLD PEACE;

10. ALSO DECLARE THAT THE OBJECTIVES CONSIDERED IN THE PRESENT DECLARATION CAN ONLY BE ACHIEVED IN A WORLD IN WHICH THE RELATIONS BETWEEN STATES ARE GOVERNED BY SUCH PRINCIPLES AS THE SOVEREIGN EQUALITY OF STATES, THE FREE SELF-DETERMINATION OF PEOPLES, THE UNACCEPTABILITY OF ACQUIRING TERRITORY BY FORCE, TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY, AND NON-INTERFERENCE IN THE DOMESTIC AFFAIRS OF OTHER STATES, JUST AS THE RELATIONS BETWEEN HUMAN BEINGS MUST BE GOVERNED

BY THE SUPREME PRINCIPLE OF ABSOLUTE EQUALITY OF RIGHTS FOR MEN
AND WOMEN. ASECIO UNQTE KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POPULATION, TEXT, REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, SEMINARS, STATUS OF WOMEN
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 MAY 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE108985
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: L/UNA:AMSURENA
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750164-0510
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750564/aaaacgst.tel
Line Count: 171
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN L
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: SmithRJ
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 SEP 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <29 SEP 2003 by buchantr>; APPROVED <16 JAN 2004 by SmithRJ>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ECLA REGIONAL SEMINAR FOR LATIN AMERICA ON THE INTEGRATION OF WOMEN ON DEVELOPMENT WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO
TAGS: PORG, AORG, SPOP, XM, MX, ECLA
To: MEXICO
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006